

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00324 170712Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /082 W
-----027892 170715Z /11

R 170609Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6471
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0324

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, MARR, IQ, SY
SUBJ: IRAQI-SYRIAN RECONCILIATION AND MICHEL AFLAQ

REF: BAGHDAD 76

1. DURING MEETING WITH FAISAL SAMAAK, PRESIDENT OF THE BAATH PARTY SAR REVOLUTION'S YOUTH UNION, JAN. 14, SAMAAK SAID THAT THE BAATH PARTY CONSIDERS IRAQ AS A NATURAL EXTENSION OF SYRIA. UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS SYRIA MUST DEMONSTRATE FLEXIBILITY TOWARD THE IRAQI REGIME TO MEET THE COMMON THREAT POSED BY SADAT'S INITIATIVE. SYRIA HAS TRIED TO OVERCOME THE DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES AND IS CONTINUING THIS EFFORT. UNFORTUNATELY, UP TO NOW, HE SAID, SYRIA HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ATTAIN POSITIVE RESULTS. SYRIA WILL CONTINUE TO EXERT EFFORTS AND HPES FOR A SOLUTION.

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2. BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND MEMBER ABDULLAH AL-AHMAD IN MEETING ON FOLLOWING DAY CONFIRMED THAT OBSTACLES TO RECONCILIATION CONTINUE AND HE ATTRIBUTED THEM DIRECTLY TO MICHEL AFLAQ AND HIS SYRIAN EMIGREE SUPPORTERS.

3. IF AFLAQ DID GO INTO EXILE IT WOULD REMOVE

MOST OBVIOUS BARRIER TO RECONCILIATION, BUT IDEOLOGICAL
RIFT AS CHARACTERIZED BY AHMAD IS STILL DEEP, AND ROAD
TO REAL RECONCILIATION WOULD REMAIN DIFFICULT.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1ad4cfe2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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